

## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A distribution apparatus which sucks in a liquid by distribution tips detachably fitted to the bottom ends of nozzles disposed on a distributing head and discharges the liquid into a container, comprising:

5 a detaching plate having a stopping portion and provided with openings being larger in diameter than outer diameter of the nozzle and smaller in diameter than outer diameter of the distribution tip which are disposed in accordance with the arrangement of the nozzles;

a holding means which serves to make the distributing head hold said  
10 detaching plate with the nozzles set through the openings;

a tip detaching stage provided with a stop member having a stop portion to stop the stopping portion; and

a distribution tip detaching means for detaching the distribution tips from the nozzles by means of said detaching plate by moving the stop member  
15 and the distributing head relatively in a direction of vertically moving apart with the stopping portion stopped by the stop portion.

2. The distribution apparatus of claim 1, wherein said distribution tip detaching means comprises a distributing head moving means for moving the  
20 distributing head relatively against said tip detaching stage.

3. The distribution apparatus of claim 1, wherein said distribution tip detaching means comprises a stop member up-and-down moving means for moving the stop member up and down.

4. A method for detaching distribution tips in a distribution apparatus, detaching distribution tips fitted in nozzles from said nozzles, in a distribution apparatus which sucks in a liquid by distribution tips detachably fitted to the bottom ends of the nozzles disposed on a distributing head,

5        wherein a detaching plate provided with openings being larger in diameter than outer diameter of the nozzle and smaller in diameter than outer diameter of the distribution tip which are disposed in accordance with the arrangement of the nozzles is held to the distributing head with the nozzles set through the openings, and with a stopping portion of the detaching plate  
10        stopped by a stop portion of a stop member disposed at a tip detaching stage, the distributing head and the stop member are relatively moved in a direction of vertically moving apart, and thereby, the distribution tips are detached from the bottom ends of the nozzles.

15        5. The method for detaching distribution tips in a distribution apparatus of claim 4, wherein the distributing head is moved up against the tip detaching stage, and thereby, the distribution tips are detached from the bottom ends of the nozzles by means of the detaching plate.

20        6. The method for detaching distribution tips in a distribution apparatus of claim 4, wherein the stop member is lowered against the distributing head, and thereby, the distribution tips are detached from the bottom ends of the nozzles by means of the detaching plate.